

FRESNO, CA (October 21, 2005) - Today, the City of Fresno and Amtrak agreed to lease terms that will allow the long-awaited opening of the restored historic Santa Fe Depot to open to the public.

Congressman Costa helped locate an alternative source of funding through the California Transportation Commission to mitigate the \$607,000 funding shortfall that held up the original opening.

“Our combined efforts of City of Fresno, the California Department of Transportation and Amtrak ensured that this could happen. I would like to thank Mayor Autry, President David Gunn of Amtrak, and the City of Fresno for keeping the faith and staying at the task. We look forward to the opening of the station in the next several weeks,” Costa stated.

“It is important that Fresno continues to flourish as a stop on the Amtrak line,” President of Amtrak, David Gunn said. “I would like to thank Gil Mallory and his staff for having worked hard to ensure that the relationship between Amtrak, the City of Fresno and the California Transportation Commission continue to be a meaningful one for the community.”

The lease agreement was fully executed this morning, and it is anticipated that Amtrak will complete the relocation to the Depot by the second week of November.